

I CLAIM:

1. Apparatus for producing therapeutic vestibular stimulation in a patient, comprising,

platform means having opposing sides for supporting a human body, restraining means attached to the platform means for securing the body to the platform, and

means enabling rotation of the platform, including a pair of mutually parallel and coaxially disposed wheels respectively attached to the opposing sides of the platform, where the axis of the wheels defines a center of rotation of the platform.

2. The apparatus of claim 1 and further including,

at least one shaft rotatably supporting the platform and having a longitudinal axis coaxial with the wheels.

3. The apparatus of claim 2 where the wheels include at least one circular disk having a planar aspect and having a center, where the plane of the disk is perpendicular to the longitudinal axis of the at least one supporting shaft and the center of the disk is coaxial with the longitudinal axis of the at least one supporting shaft.

4. The apparatus of claim 1 where the platform means includes a chair having a back and a seat for supporting the human body in a sitting position.

5. The apparatus of claim 1 where the platform means comprises an elongated bed for supporting the body in a supine position.

6. The apparatus of claim 5 where the restraining means comprises, a head restraining means, longitudinally elongated padding means for covering the torso and limbs of the supine body, a plurality of belts secured to the bed and selectively positioned laterally across the elongated padding for securing the padding against and restraining the supine body.

7. The apparatus of claim 4 where the restraining means comprises, a head restraining band, chest restraint means and a bifurcated shoulder band secured to the back of the chair, a lap belt and leg restraining straps secured to the chair.

8. Apparatus for producing therapeutic vestibular stimulation in a patient, comprising,

platform means having opposing sides for supporting a human body,

restraining means attached to the platform means for securing the body to the platform,

axle means rotatably supporting the platform means and defining a center of rotation for the platform means,

means for imparting rotation to the platform means attached to at least one of the opposing sides of the platform means.

9. The apparatus of claim 8 where the means for imparting rotation to the platform means comprises at least one circular disk having a center and where the center is coaxial with the axle means.

10. The apparatus of claim 8 where the means for imparting rotation to the platform means comprises a pair of mutually parallel and spaced apart circular disks attached respectively to the opposing sides of the platform means.

11. The apparatus of claim 10 where the platform means includes a chair for supporting the human body in a sitting position and where the opposing sides comprise the lateral sides of the chair and where each

respective one of the pair of circular disks is attached to the lateral sides of the chair.

12. The apparatus of claim 10 where the platform means includes an elongated bed for supporting the human body in a supine position and where the opposing sides comprise the head and foot of the elongated bed and where each respective one of the pair of circular disks is attached to the head and foot of the elongated bed.

13. A method for providing therapeutic vestibular stimulation in a patient, comprising the steps of;

securing the patient into a sitting position on a seat having a lateral axis of rotation,
rotating the seat about its lateral axis of rotation to simulate in the patient a somersaulting activity.

14. The method of claim 13 where the rotation is manually enabled.

15. A method for providing therapeutic vestibular stimulation in a patient, comprising the steps of;

securing the patient into a supine position on an elongated bed having a longitudinal axis of rotation,

rotating the bed about its longitudinal axis of rotation to simulate in the patient a rolling of the body about its cephalocaudal axis.

16. The method of claim 15 where the rotation is manually enabled.